ResearchHStart welcomes high school students from the Chicago and Urbana-Champaign areas to explore exciting careers in cancer research. Participants work full time in the laboratories of established cancer researchers, gaining hands-on experience in areas at the forefront of the field: cancer immunology, pharmacogenomics of anticancer agents, bioengineering, experimental cancer therapeutics, cancer disparities, and more. Rigorous research training is complemented by career development and skill-building workshops, a cancer-based faculty lecture series, and a network of faculty and peer mentors dedicated to students’ success. The program culminates in a research symposium for family, friends, and members of the scientific community. Participants receive a taxable stipend of $2,000.

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS: The University of Chicago, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

PROGRAM DATES: June 19 – August 11, 2017

**Chicago Public School students are encouraged to apply. Arrangements will be made to accommodate the program’s conflict with the school district’s calendar.**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- High school junior or senior at time of application
- United States citizen or permanent resident
- Strong interest in a career in scientific research or medicine
- Strong academic record, particularly in math and science
- Ability to commit to 8 full weeks of programming, 40 hours/week

ADMISSION

Admission to researchHStart is highly competitive: only eight participants per site will be selected. Selection is based on applicants’ stated interest in the program, academic record, and letters of recommendation. To apply:

- Submit the online application form ([http://j.mp/2elb6Rf](http://j.mp/2elb6Rf)) before midnight on Friday, January 20, 2017.
- Identify two individuals (at least one teacher) to complete the applicant recommendation form. The researchHStart team will contact your recommenders directly with instructions after you submit your online application.
- Applicants who advance to the second round: Complete an in-person interview with the program leadership team at your chosen site, scheduled for February 2017.

Conflict of Interest: The selection of applicants is managed by an independent review panel at each site. Immediate family members of the review panel or of faculty from a given site are ineligible for that site. Immediate family members of the site leadership teams or the researchHStart Advisory Committee are ineligible for the program. All applications will be subject to the Conflict of Interest Policy.

CONTACT

researchHStart@bsd.uchicago.edu  |  773-702-4678  |  http://cancer.illinois.edu/education/researchstart/
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Access the researchHStart application form at http://j.mp/2elb6Rf. Be prepared to enter the following information:

Academic Information
- Current school name, address and phone number
- Current GPA (overall, unweighted)
- Standardized test scores (PSAT, ACT, SAT as applicable)
- Most recent school transcript ( uploading as a PDF document)

Program Information
- Program site preferences: University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, or the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Areas of research interest, based on the following categories:
  - Molecular and Cellular Cancer Biology: Investigation of the molecular and cellular events that cause cancer and result in uncontrolled tumor cell growth and spread. Includes the study of gene mutations, signaling pathways, and regulation of cell proliferation, death, metabolism, motility and metastasis.
  - Computational Cancer Biology: Analysis and interpretation of genomic and other large-scale data (bioinformatics) to understand the causes, risk and outcomes of cancer.
  - Cancer Imaging: Development and optimization of medical imaging tools to detect cancer, evaluate the effectiveness of treatment and improve delivery of cancer therapies.
  - Cancer Bioengineering: A type of biomedical engineering that applies engineering principles and design concepts to improve the prevention, detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
  - Population-Based Cancer Research: Study of cancer incidence, risk and outcomes in specific populations. This includes local, national and global populations, and those that face an unequal burden of cancer incidence or mortality.
- Responses (no more than 250 words each) to the following questions:
  - What qualities and experiences do you have that best prepare you for the demands of the researchHStart program?
  - Of the learning opportunities related to careers in science and medicine, why have you chosen a program focused specifically on cancer research?
  - How do you hope this program will help you move forward with your academic and career plans?

Recommended
- Names of two individuals (at least one teacher) who will submit a recommendation on your behalf
- Recommenders’ email addresses and phone numbers

*The researchHStart team will contact your recommenders directly with further instructions*

APPLICATION DEADLINES
- January 20, 2017: Application forms due
- January 27, 2017: Recommendations due
- February 2017: Admissions interviews conducted
- March 1, 2017: Acceptance notification
- March 15, 2017: Commitment deadline